

# NEXT MORNING

Before I left I put away  
Each yellow, pink, green, blue, and gray  
Reminder, message, memo, note,  
And letter -- everything I wrote.  
I left my desk completely clean.  
And now I ask, what does it mean?  
The papers all have multiplied.  
A duplicate is there beside  
Each document I left behind.  
And in the file drawers I find  
A dozen papers added to  
Each folder -- not in just a few!  
The memos all have reproduced  
And on my desk someone has loosed  
A storm of yellow message pads.  
And all the paper moms and dads  
Have had some offspring. Some had twins!  
Even in the garbage bins  
I find a lot of extra stuff.  
I've had it! Now, enough's enough!  
From this day on I take a vow,  
No matter what, no matter how,  
I'll never leave a paper loose  
Unless I justify its use.  
I'll never, ever, duplicate  
A paper that can't pull its weight.  
I'll keep this promise to the letter,  
Or put me through the paper shredder.